

Application No. 10/762,068

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended): A seat supporting file cabinet ~~seat support~~ for use in a vehicle having a cab with a seat and floor, said file cabinet comprising:

a base[;], upstanding side walls connected to said base, [;] and a drawer connected to at least one of said upstanding walls, said base and walls defining an enclosure on all sides within which items can be securely stowed; and

at least one file holding component disposed within said enclosure; and
wherein said cabinet is disposed between the cab seat and the cab floor and is supporting the cab seat above the cab floor; and

wherein ~~said~~ the cab seat is a front seat so that [a] an [vehicle] operator seated in a front seat can easily access the drawer without having to exit the vehicle.

2. (previously presented): The cabinet of claim 1 wherein the seat is a passenger seat disposed adjacent to the vehicle operator's seat.

3. (previously presented): The cabinet of claim 1 wherein said drawer is oriented, and comprises an opening directed toward, said vehicle operator or a front passenger seat.

4. (original): The cabinet of claim 1 further comprising a small compartment for holding objects.

5. (previously presented): The cabinet of claim 4, wherein said compartment is disposed on an outer door face of said drawer.

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6. (currently amended): The cabinet of claim 1 wherein the vehicle is a large commercial truck of United States Department of Transportation Class 6, 7, or 8, or 9.

7. (original): The cabinet of claim 1 further comprising a first set of fasteners connecting said cabinet to the cab floor and a second set of fasteners to connect said cabinet to the cab seat.

8. (original): The cabinet of claim 7 wherein said second set of fasteners connect to the seat so that the seat lifts away from said cabinet from one edge of said upper surface of said cabinet.

9. (original): The cabinet of claim 8 wherein the top of said cabinet comprises a tabletop.

10. (original): The cabinet of claim 1 further comprising a backrest disposed on the seat that is foldable forward and comprises a tabletop.

11. (original): The cabinet of claim 1 wherein said cabinet is integral to the seat.

12. (original): The cabinet of claim 1 further comprising a locking component disposed on said drawer.

13. (currently amended): The cabinet of claim 12 wherein said locking component is in communication with an air brake system of the vehicle and is engageable in response to air pressure derived from an air brake system ~~of the vehicle~~ when the vehicle is moving.

14. (currently amended): The cabinet of claim ~~13~~ [12] wherein said locking component is in communication with a vehicle component that communicates an on or off signal to said locking component, and so that said locking component is engageable in response to an the on or off signal from the vehicle.

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15. (original): The cabinet of claim 1 wherein said drawer comprises a plurality of fasteners to position files in said cabinet when said drawer is closed.

16. (currently amended): A container for use in a vehicle, said container comprising:

- a base disposed within a driver compartment of said vehicle;
- upstanding side walls connected to said base;
- an upper surface ~~forming an enclosure~~ connected to said walls;
- a door disposed in said container; and
- a locking component disposed on said door, said locking component in communication with a vehicle component that communicates an on or off signal to said locking component, and so that said locking component is engageable in response to said on or off signal from the vehicle; and
wherein said container is closed on all sides so that items may be securely stowed within said container; and
wherein an operator can easily access said container without having to exit the vehicle.

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17. (currently amended): A method for using a cabinet in a vehicle having a cab with a seat and floor, comprising the steps of:

providing a base;

~~providing connecting~~ upstanding side walls ~~to said base~~;

~~providing connecting~~ an upper surface ~~forming an enclosure with~~ to the sidewalls walls;

connecting a drawer to the ~~enclosure~~ cabinet;

disposing the cabinet between the cab seat and floor, the cabinet supporting the cab seat;

locking the cabinet when the vehicle is turned on via a locking component in communication with a vehicle component that communicates an on or off signal to said locking component, ~~and so that~~ said locking component is engageable with an "on" signal from the vehicle; and

unlocking the cabinet when the vehicle is turned off via an unlocking component engageable with, and in communication with, an "off" signal from the vehicle;

forming an enclosure closed on all sides within the cabinet; and

securely stowing items within the cabinet; and

wherein an operator can easily access items in the cabinet without having to exit the vehicle.

18. (currently amended): The method of claim 17 wherein the steps of locking and unlocking the cabinet comprise engaging and disengaging the locking and unlocking component in response to air pressure derived from an air brake system of the vehicle, the air brake system being in communication with the locking and unlocking component.

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19. (currently amended): A method for using a container in a vehicle, comprising the steps of:

providing a base;

~~providing connecting~~ upstanding side walls ~~to the base~~;

~~providing connecting~~ an upper surface ~~forming an enclosure with the side to the walls~~;

providing a door in the container;

locking the container when the vehicle is turned on via a locking component in communication with a vehicle component that communicates an on or off signal to said locking component, ~~and said so that the~~ locking component is engageable with an "on" signal from the vehicle; and

unlocking the container when the vehicle is turned off via an unlocking component engageable with, and in communication with, an "off" signal from the vehicle;

forming an enclosure closed on all sides within the cabinet; and

securely stowing items with the cabinet; and

wherein an operator can easily access items in the cabinet without having to exit the vehicle.

20. (currently amended): The method of claim 19 wherein the steps of locking and unlocking the container comprise engaging and disengaging the locking and unlocking component in response to air pressure derived from an air brake system of the vehicle, the air brake system being in communication with the locking and unlocking component.

21. (new): The cabinet of claim 1 wherein the cab seat is the vehicle operator's seat.